

2. "When, MAOTTS, flying," like birds,
 along a
 certain path (of the sky), you collect the
 moving
 passing (clouds), in the nearest portions
 (of the
 firmament)₃ then, coming into collision
 with your
 cars, they pour forth (the waters).
 Therefore do you
 shower upon your worshipper the honey-
 coloured
 rain.^a

3. When they assemble (the clouds), for
 the good
 work, earth trembles at their impetuous
 movements,
 like a wife (whose husband is away):
 sportive^
 capricious., armed with bright weapons,
 and agitat-
 ing (the solid rocks), they manifest
 their inherent
 might.

4. The troop of MARUTS is self-moving,
 deer-
 borne, ever young, lords of this (earth),
 and invested
 with vigour. You, who are sincere
 liberators from
 debt,^b irreproachable, and shedders of
 rain, are the
 protectors of this our rite.

5. We declare, by our birth from our
 ancient sire,
 that the tongue (of praise) accompanies
 the mani-
 festing (invocation of the MAEUTS), at
 the libations

Tenlng simile, "like some rays " (*he chid usrd wa*) it
 has been
 understood in a different sense by former
 translators. Thus,

Eosen has *ornamentis dignoseuntur, rari lucis radii* *velut* *qiti stellis effunduntur*; and M. Langlois, (*Jes Mar outs*) *foillent* *sous* "*kun panireS*) *eomme les nuages sous les feux des etoiles*: but *itribhlh* cannot haTe any relation to *stars*.

^a *Madhiaarnam*, ⁱ haTing^ the colour of honey;' or, according to the commentator, being equally pure or pellucid (*swacJi-chJia*).

^b By making their worshippers wealthy.